

Iran in a Week

Global economic stability and the living standards of millions are increasingly tied to escalating tensions in the Middle East. Instability surrounding the Strait of Hormuz and the Bab al-Mandab Strait threatens global trade and energy supplies, making the region central to international economic security. The ongoing confrontation between the United States and

Iran — viewed by critics as being heavily influenced by Israel, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his governing coalition — has become a “war of contradictions.” The term reflects the conflicting dynamics within both sides of the dispute. President Donald Trump’s administration has often been marked by abrupt policy shifts and internal inconsistencies, while

Iran’s political system remains divided between self-described “reformists” calling for greater pragmatism and “hardliner” military leaders who continue to rely on regional confrontation and proxy warfare as core elements of the country’s strategy since the end of the Iran-Iraq War in the late 1980s.

News

Politics:



President Masoud Pezeshkian: “I will not resign. Some people want to claim that there is a dispute between us and the supreme leader.”



Secretary-General of the Iranian Hezbollah Party Ayatollah Mohammad Bagher Kharazi: “Pezeshkian has spoken about resigning 28 times or so up to now. The supreme leader has officially and publicly declared that if he wants to resign, his resignation will be accepted.”



Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Esmail Baghaei: “The Iran-Oman talks are bilateral and have no connection to any third party. Under no circumstances will the situation in the Strait of Hormuz return to what it was before the war.”



Secretary of the Supreme National Security Council Mohammad Bagher Zolghadr: “The continued US naval blockade and the fueling of wars will lead to a tighter closure of the Strait of Hormuz, in addition to the closure of other straits and strategic chokepoints. The global economy, the energy market and American voters will pay the price.”



Araghchi, during a phone call with the Ukrainian foreign minister: “Compensation must be provided for the losses suffered by our interests.”



Head of Political Affairs at the Office of the Political-Ideological Guidance of the Supreme Leader Brigadier General Rasoul Sanaei: “The countries of the region have gained experience that will reshape their assessments and calculations regarding security and military relations with the United States.”

Security and Military:



Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Public Relations: “Three F-35 fighter jets were completely destroyed and three others sustained heavy damage at Al Azraq in retaliation for the American enemy’s crimes in Qeshm.”



Four IRGC personnel were killed in a US-Saudi attack targeting facilities of the Iraqi Popular Mobilization Forces (PMF).



Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters: No country that receives compensation from Iran’s frozen assets will be allowed to pass through the Strait of Hormuz.



An Iranian army soldier was killed in a clash with armed individuals near the Marivan border in Kurdistan Province.

Society and Culture:



Statistical Center of Iran: The Misery Index reached an unprecedented 91.1 points in the spring of 2026, marking the highest level ever recorded for the indicator in Iran.



Azar Mansouri, head of the Iranian Reform Front: “The continuation of the crisis day after day imposes additional burdens on the people. Capital is leaving the country, production is being damaged, hope is fading, the number of unemployed people and those living in poverty is increasing, and the future is becoming more uncertain than ever before.”



The Iranian Students Polling Agency (ISPA): The internet accounts for 89% of Iranians’ daily lives. Statistics show that the livelihoods of more than half of Iran’s internet users (55.4%) are directly or indirectly dependent on the stability of the network and communication tools.

Economy:



Union of Exporters of Oil Gas and Petrochemical Products Spokesman Hamid Hosseini: “Importing gasoline has become nearly impossible, and we are facing a daily gasoline shortage of around 20 million liters.”



Head of Iran’s Inspection Organization: “More than 20,000 individuals and legal entities have outstanding foreign currency obligations amounting to €94 billion.”



Statistical Center of Iran: During the spring of this year, nearly 800,000 people joined the economically inactive population, bringing the number of people who are neither employed nor seeking work to more than 39 million.

The Region and the World:



Pakistani Foreign Ministry Spokesman Tahir Andrabi: “Pakistan is in contact with both Iran and the United States to halt hostilities and bring the parties back to the memorandum of understanding.”



The US Department of the Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) announced a new round of sanctions targeting a network linked to Iran, adding 10 companies and seven oil tankers to its sanctions list.



UK Foreign Secretary, during a phone call with Araghchi: “We are not part of the war against Iran.”

Editorials

1


Jahan-e Sanat Newspaper



The Social Consequences of Shoplifting; Where Poverty Intersects With Survival

As earning a living becomes increasingly difficult, some people are resorting to stealing food from shops out of desperation and extreme poverty. Some secretly take goods, while others eat inside stores away from surveillance cameras simply to stave off hunger for a few more hours. Some manage to leave unnoticed, while others are caught. Worsening living conditions have not only shrunk household dining tables but have also negatively affected social behavior. The rise in social problems — including petty theft, drug addiction, the sale of human organs and other crises —is linked to Iran’s struggling economy, which has placed a heavy burden on broad segments of society, particularly the poor, for years.

2


Arman Emrooz



Reservations Over the Caspian Sea Convention

Ratifying the Caspian Sea Convention would be a serious mistake as long as Iran’s share, maritime boundaries and resource rights in the Caspian Sea have not been clearly defined. It would only further legitimize the maritime border agreement between Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan, which is viewed as infringing on Iran’s territorial rights. Iran should make ratification conditional upon completing maritime boundary delimitation and resource allocation with Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan, while officially declaring that it will not ratify the convention until those issues are fully resolved. This would turn ratification into leverage to encourage a fair maritime settlement.

3


Hammihan



Does the Public Care Whether Parliament Meets or Remains Closed?

Virtually no segment of society feels the absence of Parliament or is concerned that its public sessions have not been held. A minority of lawmakers have turned tension, anger and disregard for public decorum into routine behavior, stripping Parliament of its significance. The systematic disqualification of educated and qualified candidates has resulted in incompetent individuals replacing capable representatives, leaving the public largely indifferent to whether Parliament convenes or remains closed.

4


Kayhan newspaper



America’s Only Option Is to Leave the Region Immediately

Strikes on Iran’s energy infrastructure would reduce the country’s ability to provide services but would not eliminate it. By contrast, southern Arab states would be far more vulnerable, as Iran could use its medium-range missile arsenal to push them into crisis within half a day. Iran could also exploit its regional influence to shape domestic developments in those countries and facilitate the emergence of new governments. A renewed large-scale war targeting Iran’s infrastructure would be the enemy’s most consequential decision and would ultimately signal its final decision to withdraw from the region.